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Personnel Officer

25 January 1948

Chief, FBIB

Revised Table of Organization for FBIB Departmental Offices

REF. : Memorandum dated 17 September 1948 to Executive for A&M from ADO,
subject: same as above

1. When compared to the present organization and operation, FBIB as it functioned at the time of the 1947 Classification Survey must be regarded as an appendage to, rather than an integral part of, CIA and the national intelligence establishment. This condition existed primarily because:

a. FBIB as an organization, and most of the personnel in it, had not been cleared to handle information classified higher than "Restricted".

b. The Branch received only negligible guidance and direction from the IAC agencies.

c. The Branch and its personnel were not thoroughly acquainted with intelligence requirements.

d. The Branch had little understanding of the specific contribution of monitored information to intelligence in the light of material available from other sources.

2. The growing importance of foreign radio broadcasting has considerably increased FBIB's responsibilities in the "Conduct of all Federal monitoring of foreign propaganda and press broadcasts required for collection of intelligence information to meet the needs of all departments and agencies in connection with the national security."

a. Foreign radio broadcasting facilities have been significantly expanded, resulting in a sizeable increase in the number of transmitters, greater complexity of programming, and exploitation of new types of communications media.

b. Radio broadcasts have become a major weapon in the "cold war". Countries and groups within countries seek through the medium of radio broadcasting to influence other countries or groups, and to put their case before the tribunal of world public opinion.

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c. IAC agencies have increasingly demanded a greater and more analytically selected volume of monitored broadcasts processed for rapid dissemination.

3. In order to achieve thorough integration into the national intelligence establishment and to cope with increased responsibilities, FBIB has carried out an extensive program of relocation, reorganization and reorientation.

a. All FBIB field stations have been or are in the process of being relocated or reconstructed so as to bring within range a large number of transmitters heretofore unmoniterable.

b. The volume of broadcasts monitored has been greatly increased. More significantly, the selection of broadcasts to be monitored has been improved and a flexibility achieved which permits concentration upon critical areas. New types of radio transmission are being exploited; e.g., dispatches in Morse code and radio teletype from press agency field correspondents.

c. A world wide reciprocal arrangement with the British Broadcasting Corporation has been formalized and implemented in order to effect a clear definition of respective coverage areas and to determine and assign the type and priority of coverage required for each transmitter.

d. The Branch and its personnel have been security cleared and deal with the IAC agencies on appropriate subjects without classification restrictions.

e. IAC agencies furnish specific and continuing guidance to the Branch in the form of weekly targets, special collection directives and liaison, including desk level liaison with FBIB editors and analysts assigned to specific geographic areas.

f. Through the receipt and study of IAC intelligence publications, cables, and other documents, as well as the attendance of key personnel at interrogations, round table discussions, etc., the personnel of the Branch have acquired a much broader understanding of fundamental intelligence requirements and specifically the intelligence value attributed to monitored information by IAC agencies in consideration of comparable material available from other sources.

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g. Dissemination has been increased in volume and variety of means. The teletype service previously rendered State Department only has been expanded and extended to ID, Department of the Army, and to two CIA offices. Twenty thousand words of broadcast material from the Far East are cabled daily to the British Broadcasting Corporation monitoring Service in exchange for European monitoring furnished to FBIS. The volume of material disseminated in reports has considerably increased. Two new "Confidential" weekly publications containing principally items of economic significance are being issued.

4. This fundamental reorientation has been accomplished with a minimum of change in structural organization. However, with the expanded operation and increased responsibilities of the Branch, the duties and responsibilities of personnel within the Branch, particularly of the Editorial Division, Field Operations Staff and Special Reports Division, have become considerably greater and more exacting.

5. Attached hereto are copies of unsolicited correspondence received by this Branch which it is believed clearly indicate the higher level of operation of this Branch and the increased responsibility of the personnel charged with the various phases of its function.

L. E. WHITE

Attachments

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